

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 072272 TOSEC 030217
ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 PRS-01 EUR-12
IO-13 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /072 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:EMARKS:JR
APPROVED BY AF - DBBOL:N
AF/C:TRBUCHANAN
S/S:AWOTTO

-----020115Z 020984 /63

O 020046Z APR 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 072272 TOSEC 030217

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CG

SUBJECT: ZAIRE SITREP NUMBER 19

1. THERE HAS BEEN VERY LITTLE CHANGE IN TACTICAL SITUATION
IN PAST 24 HOURS. ZAIRIANS CONTINUE TO CONTROL IMPORTANT
MUTSHATSHA-KOLWEZI ROAD AT LEAST 60 MILES WEST OF KOLWEZI.

2. DOMESTIC SITUATION: THE GOZ HAS REACTED TO ANTI-
MOBUTU ACTIVITY IN THE CAPITAL BY ARRESTING SUSPECTED
OPPOSITION MEMBERS, WHO ARE SPEAKING OPENLY AGAINST THE
MOBUTU REGIME AND RECRUITING OTHERS TO JOIN THEM. A
NUMBER OF ANGOLAN RESIDENTS HAVE BEEN APPREHENDED BY
SECRET POLICE. THE GOVERNMENT PARTY, MPR, PLANS HOLDS
"GIGANTIC MARCH OF SUPPORT" FOR MOBUTU SUNDAY, APRIL 3.
THIS APPEARS BE FIRST TIME SINCE START OF HOSTILITIES
GOZ WILLING RISK PUBLIC ASSEMBLY IN CAPITAL.

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3. FRENCH ASSISTANCE: FOUR FRENCH OFFICERS AND EIGHT
NONCOMS WERE TO ARRIVE IN KINSHASA TODAY TO ACT AS
ADVISORS TO DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE.

4. NIGERIAN DIPLOMATIC EFFORT: ACCORDING TO SOURCES IN
GOZ MIN FOR AFF, GARBA CONSULTATIONS WITH PRESIDENT
MOBUTU "WENT VERY WELL". MOBUTU REPORTEDLY UNDERSTOOD

GARBA READY TO EXERCISE LEVERAGE IF NECESSARY TO MOVE NETO ALONG (E.G., THROUGH NIGERIAN ADVISORS NOW IN ANGOLA). IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT, OAU SEC GEN ETEKI ARRIVED KINSHASA APRIL 1.

5. GOZ INTRODUCED CENSORSHIP OF PRESS: FOREIGN PRESS WAS SUMMONED TO BRIEFING MARCH 31 BY GOZ AND CRITICIZED FOR INCORRECT REPORTING AND WARNED THAT STRONGER ACTION MIGHT BE NEEDED. GOZ LATER INITIATED CENSORSHIP OF OUTGOING PRESS CABLES. IT NOT CERTAIN WHETHER GOZ WILL ATTEMPT CENSOR CORRESPONDENTS FILING BY INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE. AS CAN BE EXPECTED, US PRESS IS REACTING NEGATIVELY TO CENSORSHIP.

6. AMCITS: AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI REPORTED THAT ONLY AMERICANS IN SHABA AREA OUTSIDE OF LUBUMBASHI ARE TEN MISSIONARIES HELD BY INVADERS AT KAPANGA AND SANDOA, FOUR PEOPLE AT KOLWEZI, AND TWO ANTHROPOLOGISTS IN KONGOLO.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, POLITICAL STABILITY, POLITICAL SITUATION, INVASIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE072272
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EMARKS:JR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770113-0958
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770496/aaaadffw.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9d868bab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2920227
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ZAIRE SITREP NUMBER 19
TAGS: PFOR, PINR, MOPS, PINS, CG
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9d868bab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009